— Delegation of enhanced administrative and financial powers have been made to scientific institutions to improve the organisational efficiency and working conditions of scientists.

International Conferences held in India

2568. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of International Conference held in India during 1986; and

(b) what is the total amount of expenditure borne by the Government on these International Conferences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

Inquiry into letter of Credit by Reliance

2569. SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether CBI inquiry ordered by the then Minister of Finance into the opening of Letter of Credit by Reliance in the year 1985 been concluded;

(b) if not, by when is the report expected;

(c) if completed, what are the conclusions of this report; and

(d) what action is proposed by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (d) Central Bureau of Investigation have reported that investigation of the case has been completed. The investigation report is now under examination.

Deputy Chairman Planning Commission

2570. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA :

SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 1013 on 5th March, 1987 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission declined to head a team to visit Darjeeling to study its special developmental needs;

(b) whether the said proposed visit of the team headed by the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission was announced in the press by the Minister of State for Commerce;

(c) whether it is a fact that areas already covered under Hill Area Development Programmes of the Seventh Plan would get special grants over and above, the financial flows to the hill area from the State Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Minister of State for Commerce in his capacity as President of West Bengal Pradesh Congress Committee (I) had expressed a hope that a visit by Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and his team to not only Darjeeling alone but also to North Bengal and other similar backward areas could be of considerable value.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Special Central Assistance allocated to the Darjeeling Hill Areas for the Seventh Five Year Plan is Rs. 44.55 crores over and above Rs. 78.43 crores as flow of funds from the State Plan.

Grants by the Centre to the States

2571. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the formula being followed at present for providing grants by the Centre to the States;